

The Gant County Fiscal Court met in Special Session on Monday, June 06, 2005, at 7:00 P.M. at the Grant County Courthouse in Williamstown, Kentucky 41097, with Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, Present; Patricia Conrad, Magistrate 2nd District, Present; Kenny Messer, Magistrate 3rd District, Present, and Hon. Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive, Present and Presiding.

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Magistrate Conrad opened in prayer. Judge Link then led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those present were: Clark Kinman-Cable TV, Mayor Bill Cull-City of Dry Ridge, Councilmen Eddie Morgan-Kenny Edmondson-Gary Hopperton-Jason O’Nan and Jamie Webster and Mike Mulvey-Attorney for City of Dry Ridge, Sheriff’s Deputies Troy Hagedorn and Chuck Dills, Jamie Baker-Nantz-Grant County News, Dry Ridge Fire Department Fire Chief Norris Stacey, Dry Ridge Fire Department members Stacy H. Beall-Jim Wells and Stefanie Elam, and City of Williamstown Fire Chief Les Whalen. Judge Link updated on the Additions to the Agenda. He welcomed all to the meeting.

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Motion of Patricia Conrad and seconded by Kenny Messer it is hereby ordered to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2005, meeting as presented.

The following votes were taken: Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, votes Yes; Patricia Conrad, Magistrate 2nd District, votes Yes; Kenny Messer, Magistrate 3rd District, votes Yes; and Hon. Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive, votes Yes.

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Judge Link presented for review and approval the Claims in the General Expense Fund, Road Fund, and Jail Fund, for the month of June, 2005, along with the transfers needed to pay said claims. He asked if there were any questions about them.

Motion of Patricia Conrad and seconded by Kenny Messer it is hereby ordered to approve Claims No. 01-1273 thru 01-1332 in the amount of \$59,546.42 paid out of the General

Expense Fund; Claims No. 02-459 thru 02-481 in the amount of \$113,665.10 paid out of the Road Fund and Claims No. 03-1639 thru 03-1644 in the amount of \$13,694.19 paid out of the Jail Fund, for the month of June, 2005, along with the transfers presented to pay said claims.

The following votes were taken: Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, votes Yes; Patricia Conrad, Magistrate 2nd District, votes Yes; Kenny Messer, Magistrate 3rd District, votes Yes; and Hon. Darrell L. Link, County Judge/Executive, votes Yes.

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Judge Link opened all bids received for providing various Materials and Supplies for the 2005-2006 Fiscal Year. They are as follows: He stated that the Court would just open these bids tonight and probably not take any action on them. He explained that he usually puts them in Matrix form for the Court to review at the next Caucus meeting and then they would make a decision at the next Fiscal Court meeting scheduled for June 20th.

Item No. 1- Stone: (1) Sterling Materials; (2) Hilltop Stone LLC; (3) Kim Crupper Transport (Stone and Hauling Stone); (4) Roth Trucking (Delivered Stone); (5) Nally & Gibson Georgetown, LLC. (Stone and Hauling Stone).

Item No. 2 - Hauling Stone: (1) Fayette Trucking; (2) Hilltop Stone LLC.

Item No. 3 - Liquid Asphalt: (1) Vulcan Materials Company; (2) Terry Materials; (3) Marathon Ashland Petroleum.

Item No. 4 - Gasoline & Diesel Fuel #2 for Road Department: (1) Royce Adams Oil Co. and (2) Grant County Oil Co., Inc.

Item No. 5 - Hot Mix Base & Surface: (1) Barrett Paving Materials Inc., and (2) Bluegrass Paving, Inc.

Item No. 6 – Salt for Snow Emergency: (1) Central Salt-\$57.45 per ton; (2) Morton Salt-\$60.70 per ton; (3) Cargill Deicing Technology-\$48.14 per ton; and (4) Kim Crupper Transport-\$52.90 per ton.

All bids are as follows:

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Judge Link presented for a second reading Ordinance No. 03-2005-560 relating to the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2005-2006, along with the Notice to run in the local paper showing adoption, if approved. They are as follows:

Motion of Kenny Messer and seconded by Richard Austin it is hereby ordered to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 03-2005-560 relating to the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2005-2006, along with the Notice to run in the local paper showing adoption as presented.

The following votes were taken: Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, votes Yes; Patricia Conrad, Magistrate 2nd District, votes Yes; Kenny Messer, Magistrate 3rd District, votes Yes; and Hon. Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive, votes Yes.

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Judge Link presented for review the Recommendation of the Grant County Planning Commission for a Zone Change from Agricultural One to Rural Residential on 3.169 acres of land located on the South side of Baton Rouge Road approximately 2.0 miles from the intersection of Baton Rouge Road and Arnie Risen Blvd, Grant County, Kentucky, owned by applicant Ronald Gabbert. It is as follows: He also presented for a first reading Ordinance No. 05-2005-562 relating to an Amendment to the Grant County Zoning Map for said applicant, along with the Notice to run in the local paper showing second reading to be on Monday, June 20, 2005, at 7; 00 P.M. or as soon thereafter as possible, if approved. They are as follows:

Motion of Patricia Conrad and seconded by Kenny Messer it is hereby ordered to accept the Recommendation of the Grant County Planning Commission for a Zone Change for applicant Ronald Gabbert as presented, and to further approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 05-2005-562 relating to an Amendment to the Grant County Zoning Map

for said applicant, along with the Notice to run in the local paper showing second reading to be on June 20, 2005, at 7:00 P.M. or as soon thereafter as possible, as presented.

The following votes were taken: Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, votes Yes; Patricia Conrad, Magistrate 2nd District, votes Yes; Kenny Messer, Magistrate 3rd District, votes Yes; and Hon. Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive, votes Yes.

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Judge Link presented for review the Building Inspector's Report for May 2005. No action is required. It is as follows:

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Judge Link presented for review the Road Supervisor's Report for May, 2005. No action is required. It is as follows: He stated that a lot of the work was for preparing the county roads that the Court had bid out for resurfacing and getting them ready by putting in cross culverts across those roads and ditching them as well as mowing thru out the county. He stated that the Fords Mill Road was actually the only one blacktopped to date, and he thought they had done a pretty good job.

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Judge Link stated that it was time to appoint Willie Dale Lawrence once again as Committee for Randall Middleton, Sheriff to prepare the Sheriff's Tax Settlements for 2004 and requested a motion to appoint him.

Motion of Kenny Messer and seconded by Richard Austin it is hereby ordered to appoint Willie Dale Lawrence as Committee for Randall J. Middleton, Sheriff, to prepare the Sheriff's Tax Settlements for 2004.

The following votes were taken: Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, votes Yes; Patricia Conrad, Magistrate 2nd District, votes Yes; Kenny Messer, Magistrate 3rd District, votes Yes; and Hon. Darrell Link County Judge/Executive, votes Yes.

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Judge Link presented for review and action the Resignation of Greg Wells from the Grant

County Detention Center effective May 31, 2005. It is as follows:

Motion of Patricia Conrad and seconded by Richard Austin it is hereby ordered to accept the Resignation of Greg Wells from the Grant County Detention Center effective May 31, 2005, as presented.

The following votes were taken: Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, votes Yes; Patricia Conrad, Magistrate 2nd District, votes Yes; Kenny Messer, Magistrate 3rd District, votes Yes; and Hon. Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive, votes Yes.

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Judge Link presented for review and action the Appointment of Sean Gorby to serve as a member of the Grant County Friends of the Shelter, Inc. It is as follows: Judge Link stated that he is the Manager of the local Tractor Supply located between Williamstown and Dry Ridge and is very interested in serving on this Board.

Motion of Patricia Conrad and seconded by Kenny Messer it is hereby ordered to approve the appointment of Sean Gorby as a member of the Grant County Friends of the Shelter, Inc. as presented.

The following votes were taken: Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, votes yes; Patricia Conrad, Magistrate 2nd District, votes Yes; Kenny Messer, Magistrate 3rd District, votes Yes; and Hon. Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive, votes Yes.

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Judge Link presented for review and action the letter from the Kentucky Advance Revenue Program (KARP) including the Note Resolution, Annex A, B, C, & D and other forms for both the General Expense Fund and the Road Fund allowing the County to enter into financing thru the Ky. Advance Revenue Program (KARP) for the 2005-2006 fiscal year. They are as follows:

Motion of Patricia Conrad and seconded by Kenny Messer it is hereby ordered to approve the Note Resolution including Annex A., B., C & D and other forms allowing the county

to enter into financing thru the Ky. Advance Revenue Program (KARP) for the 2005-2006 fiscal year as presented for both the General Expense Fund and the Road Fund, and to authorize the County Judge/Executive to sign said forms on behalf of the Fiscal Court.

The following votes were taken: Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, votes Yes; Patricia Conrad, Magistrate 2nd District, votes Yes; Kenny Messer, Magistrate 3rd District, votes Yes; and Hon. Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive, votes Yes.

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Judge Link presented the Coroner's Report for January thru May, 2005. No action is required. It is as follows:

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Judge Link presented for review and action the Agreement regarding to the purchase of the Cattle Barn located in the Grant County Park at Crittenden from the Grant County Cattleman's Association. It is as follows: He explained that a claim had previously been approved by the Court for payment for the barn, but said the public would be well served if all entities signed an Agreement for said purchase as written by the County Attorney. Motion of Kenny Messer and seconded by Richard Austin it is hereby ordered to approve the Agreement for the purchase of the Cattle barn from the Grant County Cattleman's Association, and to authorize the Judge/Executive to sign said Agreement as prepared by Grant County Attorney Ed Lorenz.

The following votes were taken: Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, votes Yes; Patricia Conrad, Magistrate 2nd District, votes Yes; Kenny Messer, Magistrate 3rd District, votes Yes; and Hon. Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive, votes Yes.

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Mayor Bill Cull, City of Dry Ridge, was present along with the Dry Ridge City Council, to discuss funding for the Fire Department. Mayor Cull thanked the Court for allowing them to come to discuss the fire Departments in the rural Area. He passed out a sheet showing the districts by square miles and funding for same broken down by percentages

for each district. He gave a general review of this information showing \$60,000.00 funding for past years for which they were thankful. He explained that with gas going up and insurance going up and the large mileage that Dry Ridge has to go out and protect for the county and the city limits, they would like to request an increase in their funding if at all possible. He stated that he understood from the local paper the Fiscal Court had increased the fire protection funding to \$100,000.00 in the 2005-2006 fiscal year budget. He also presented a yearly Fire Department Run Summary for year ending 2004 and updated on it. He explained that in Dry Ridge there were 168 total fire runs. 168 were in the City of Dry Ridge, 122 were in the rural area and 45 were Mutual Aid making 335 times they were out. Crittenden had 59, Jonesville 2, Williamstown 50 and Corinth had 23 if he understood the report. He then was told from the Fire Department personnel present that these were not the total runs and then he corrected this statement. He also updated on the total mileage on the report and asked for the Court's support and help. He said that they just wanted to show the Court what large area they do have to cover, and they are thankful that they are able to with 7 fire fighters/EMT Paramedics who are available to go out on runs. He stated that he was not putting down the other cities but that Williamstown and Dry Ridge were the two cities working pretty hard. You can see from the papers Corinth and Crittenden are asking for help, and it is getting to be a thing of the past to have Volunteers since everyone works. He again asked the Court to consider and look at their budget, and said that they are looking at their budget come July on what to do and how to offset this and said that \$12,000.00 is not sufficient enough to help them run this whole big area. Magistrate Messer asked him what he was asking for, and Mayor Cull said it was on the Report and that it showed it based on percentages for

\$60,000.00. He again asked them to look at it since there is \$100,000.00 now with those figures and divide it out evenly based on the percentages. He said that the Williamstown Fire Chief was here also and they are very deserving as they back up Dry Ridge and Dry Ridge backs them up. He said they try to back up all of the fire departments in the county but sometimes there is nobody to go. Judge Link stated that the Fiscal Court had just recently approved this year's contracts for \$12,000.00 each, and explained that the \$60,000.00 was divided evenly over the five departments as it has been done in the last four or five years because they all have basic needs regardless of the number of runs they may participate in. He did say that the Court had allocated \$100,000.00 in the new 2005-2006 fiscal year budget which is an increase of 75%, but said the question now is how do we fairly distribute those funds. Is there a basic amount that could be derived at that each department would need regardless of how many runs they make because there are some basic and elementary needs there even if you don't make a run? If that base could be established he thinks you could use other data, which Mayor Cull has attempted to do, and then you could justify giving one fire department a little more money than another. He pointed out that the data they presented are square miles in the county and you can see that Dry Ridge would basically get from the \$60,000.00 a \$23,000.00 payment, Jonesville would receive \$3,096.00, Crittenden would receive \$6,536.00 and Williamstown, who responds a great deal, would only get approximately \$13,000.00, and that is based on geographic square miles. He said that the fallacy with distributing only on square miles, as you can see on the map in the Magistrates packets and located on the wall in the Courtroom, is that Dry Ridge does have the largest geographic miles. He reviewed the map by color for each City and said that these are the geographic miles

being presented. He said the interesting thing about the map is not so much the geographic miles that you presume to provide coverage for, it would be the circles that are drawn, a 5 miles radius around where your firehouse or fire station is. The good news in that information is that there is a sufficient amount of coverage for the largest number of people that live in Grant County on the Crittenden to Dry Ridge-Williamstown Corridor because you can see the location of the fire departments and those having a 5 mile radius, but there is a tremendous amount of overlap there in regards to coverage. It would appear that the safest people in regards to fire suppression would be those people who live between Williamstown and Dry Ridge because either fire department could get there in a timely manner. It may seem, not so much to the city, but to the people who live in a remote location of the county where those circles don't intersect and where the circles don't even reach at all, and you can see it is a minority number of people because the majority lives within those intersections of circles. That is the good news. The bad news is we have people living outside the circles that we can't respond to in a timely manner and he thinks that those people's lives are just as precious as any others that you may be describing, and said we probably need to take a little better look as to how we will provide service to those folks. It could be that we could reduce the geographic area that is currently assigned to a department so a geographic area could be extremely reduced especially in the one Dry Ridge is providing because it may seem that Jonesville can get there just as quickly. We may go with a Mutual Aid from say, Glencoe or even Verona to serve Concord Road. He updated on a time a couple of weeks ago when he was at his mother-in-law's house on Napoleon Zion Station Road sitting on the front porch and he saw a fire apparatus go by and was curious as to where it was going. He

and his father-in-law took a ride down the road and arrived at a barn fire that was at the end of Concord Road and the barn had already burned down and was on the ground.

There was some property close to that barn that could be possibly protected and saved so the Fire Department was needed. Warsaw was there, Gallatin County was there and even Dry Ridge. He did not know who arrived first, and he feels that it would be prudent on the Court's part to delve into that information to see who could arrive first at the farthest remote area in the county especially those outside of the circle. It will take time to do that and can't do it tonight, but he is pleased that the Court gave a 75% increase in funding. Again, the question remaining is the distribution of those funds and how to do that in a fair and most equitable manner so that nobody loses service and everybody gets the best service that we can provide. That is where we are at in regards to the geographic area because they used those as data points and he doesn't know that that services us all well. There could be other data points that we possibly can use and he feels a recommendation will come at a later date. Magistrate Messer asked again about how much they were requesting and discussion was held. Mayor Cull said it was up to the Court to figure out and determine the amounts. The Dry Ridge City Council just did not feel the Court was aware of the square miles they were covering. Councilman Gary Hopperton asked if there still was an even distribution in the County budget for each fire department. Judge Link explained how the funds have always been appropriated which is \$100,000.00 or 75% increase for the 2005-2006 fiscal year, but they have not arrived at, by motion, how much will be distributed to each fire department. If the Court does as in the past each would receive \$20,000.00. He also stated that he has today received from Jonesville Fire Chief Duvall a different distribution of funds which gives a basis to work

from. Judge Link stated that he questioned Mr. Duvall on this proposal and from memory, Mr. Duvall said that Jonesville Volunteer Fire Department would be willing to accept \$16,000.00 and give more to Dry Ridge if that would better serve them, making \$23,000.00 for Dry Ridge, and the other three fire departments were somewhere in between. Mr. Duvall did not provide any other data along with that so we don't know how he arrived at these numbers. That is what all are attempting to do, is how do we justify the amounts being given. Councilman Gary Hopperton spoke on the fact that no fire department should get a decrease in funding, and Judge Link stated that he agreed, but said it was Dry Ridge's Mayor who had presented this Sheet showing them getting decreases. Judge Link does not think any fire department should get a decrease from what was given in the past and that is what has created a conflict. They are trying to hold a base amount and yet pay honor to Dry Ridge because they have the most geographic area and basically the potential for the most runs given that the Interstate runs thru Dry Ridge. The question comes from Dry Ridge "Is that fair?". The Court has not arrived at an answer yet, that is what they are attempting to do. Mayor Cull made some comments as to whether the citizens out in the county were aware of the problem and are they going to be served out there, like Crittenden sometimes can not make their calls, and Dry Ridge has Mutual Aid to them. Williamstown has Mutual Aid to Corinth because they can't make the calls in the day time, and both Williamstown and Dry Ridge back each other up. The question is if you don't have paid fire people out there or somebody to jump in a fire truck and go, their people go and everybody is in a dilemma trying to support other people out there. Magistrate Conrad asked if the Fire Department or the City of Dry Ridge have in place a billing procedure, when you make a fire run is there somebody who

takes care of the billing on that run to make sure the insurance company gets the bill and you get paid for the runs you are making. She said that when she was on the City Council several years ago that was a bit of a problem. No one seemed to follow up with the paperwork. She said she is not accusing anyone. Mayor Cull reported that they contact the different insurance companies in the county and most all of them said there was on structure fires etc a \$500.00 payment for the firemen. He said that what they do is like a soft billing to them, and on any Interstate accidents like one out of Ohio they do bill but collecting them is another question. It was reported from fire personnel present that collection rate is about 50/50. Magistrate Conrad commented that she knew enough about firefighters to know that whether it be Williamstown or Dry Ridge, if somebody calls for help they are going to jump on a fire truck and go because that is what you do. That is what you believe in and that is your job and you are not going to sit there and say you don't know and we don't have to deal with that. I am not going today. She does not think that is how firefighters think. She wants them to know that whether they be in the City of Williamstown, Jonesville, Crittenden, Corinth or Dry Ridge, she has a lot of respect for what they do. Councilman Jason O'Nan stated that they had also asked Mayor Cull to come to speak about the fire contract. He was not sure if Dry Ridge's contract had been signed and Judge Link said that all five contracts have all been signed and returned for this year. Mr. O'Nan said that he understood that when the 04-05 fiscal year contract was signed and returned it was after services were rendered to the county. Judge Link agreed and said that is the way it has always been done in the past. Mr. O'Nan said that they have asked Mayor Cull to come to present to the Court along with Jimmy Wells to negotiate the 05-06 fiscal year contract. He then asked Jim Wells and

Norris Stacey to talk and express their concerns on behalf of the City of Dry Ridge about this to see if a resolution could be worked out on that and possibly instead of making a contract to where it is paid after services are rendered, paying prior to services rendered so that the money can be used during that fiscal year. He feels that most contracts are negotiated up front and payments made throughout the contract period and would like to see that take place on fire contracts. Mayor Cull also asked that quarterly payments be made as they do for Fiscal Court and the Sheriff's Department. He also would like to see fire departments get paid quarterly rather than at the end of the year. Williamstown Fire Chief Les Whalen also stated that it was discussed at the Williamstown Council meeting to request bi-annual payments, one in December and one at the end of the year. That is the way they would like theirs paid. Judge Link said that is one of our problems, is trying to respond to each of the different requests as they are requested by the fire departments. He said it is of little consequence to him administratively unless the Magistrates order him to do that, whether it be distributed quarterly or semi-annually. However they order him to do it is what he will do. At this time Jim Wells spoke on a process or way to get in the front end of a contract rather than in the rearage of a contract. He said in a basic contract negotiations you obviously have leverage or bargaining power if you are bargaining on contract terms. Now we sign a contract at the end of the point when services are rendered and that leaves the bargaining agent of the provider at a disadvantage. He said that Judge Link and he worked on trying to bring the contracts in the fore front instead of in the rear. Since that failed he was charged by the Dry Ridge City Council and Mayor to try to do that, but since that has failed they have no other alternative but to try to negotiate a contract up front by setting out some terms. He said

that they want to sign a contract with the county for providing services for fire protection outside the city limits of Dry Ridge in the unincorporated areas of the county and the other fire departments would follow suit with that prior to the beginning of service and that is what they understood they were here to do tonight. A letter that he said was to be internal and not sent to the Fiscal Court was presented that had some specific terms that he said the City Council had discussed. Somehow it did get to Fiscal Court and is as follows: Mr. Wells updated on these terms as set out in the letter, the first item being a \$500.00 fee per incident until contract is reached by July 01, 2005 to run thru June 30, 2006, until both parties agree on a contract and its conditions. This is basically what they discussed and why they came tonight. They really don't want to do that and don't want to get into a charge for services. He said that besides the fact that they cover 103.7 square miles of the county, regardless whatever factors that you calculate, there are some other factors that were determined. They looked at number of buildings, density, and population. They numbers all suggested relatively the same thing. In the criteria they used there was not an equal distribution of funds based on the fire protection districts that was covered. The City of Dry Ridge would like to enter into a contract beforehand with the Fiscal Court and establish a rate or fee schedule for a blanket amount to provide services for the contract period. Discussion was held on how this all came about and Mr. Wells again updated on the contract not being signed until April when the fiscal year was about over. Magistrate Messer questioned him on their request and what they want in the contract. Mr. Wells reiterated his request. This would give them the opportunity to bargain a schedule instead of taking the graces of the appropriations from the Fiscal Court. They want to make that an interactive process where they can try to set up a

schedule in advance of services and anticipated costs. He said the Dry Ridge 04-05 budget for the fire department was \$935,000.00 and the Fiscal Court only paid an additional \$12,000.00. The City taxpayers paid \$935,000.00 and Fiscal Court \$12,000.00, and what they would like to see in the contract is to find a way to negotiate that cost a little bit more appropriate to the service area and to the number of calls in volume that is protected to that. Magistrate Conrad informed Mr. Wells that Fiscal Court is not a bottomless bit of money. We have a finite amount of money that we can spend, but we do not have a payroll tax and Dry Ridge does. She lives in the county and pays a dear payroll tax. She just wants him to know we are not an endless pit of money. Mr. Wells stated that these men over there all represent the City of Dry Ridge and they have to dish out \$935,000.00 for residents in the county, so there has to be newer ground on how we are going to proceed. Magistrate Conrad said that Fiscal Court does support the cities, not just for fires. He said again that is why they are here tonight is to pass a process where a contract can be entered into before hand and negotiate those terms up front. He also reviewed and updated on the year end summary report for fiscal year ending 2004 and updated on the facts and figures contained in it. The court asked about the Mutual Aid runs for other cities and Judge Link asked if it was fair to add those to ours. Mr. Wells updated on the numbers in the gray area and the white area under City and Rural on the report. Judge Link asked also how many were off the Interstate. He said all of these are classified as a City limit response not a rural response with the exception of Mutual Aid and then it is classified in the geographic location of which district that would provide that service. More discussion was held on the \$500.00 fee for the 167 fire response that equals \$83,500.00. Mr. Wells explained how he arrived at the

\$500.00 per incident. It is based on their budget divided by total number of runs made, or 1207, which is \$775.00 per incident and that is what it cost them to provide the service based on their budget. So he came up with a lesser fee of \$500.00 as a bargaining number to start with. Magistrate Messer asked if we did this and they billed us \$500.00 per incident and also billed the insurance company for \$500.00, who gets their money back. Mr. Wells said they a City Ordinance created this year that is specific on what they can charge for and it allows them to charge, only in the city as a City ordinance does not carry forth out in the county. He updated on what they charge for in detail. Magistrate Messer asked if the 122 runs are fire and EMS together, are they not combined when they take that call. Mr. Wells said that they are completely separate and explained how this works. Councilman Hopperton again spoke and said the purpose and intention of this meeting was to understand the Court knew their situation and that everyone knew the intention of everyone else. He feels that the letter is strong and he does not want to give that impression and he feels it does. Magistrate Conrad said she does not like to be threatened. Mr. Hopperton does not know why the letter is here, it was not supposed to be here and was not sent by them. Magistrate Messer said he got it in the mail. Judge Link said regardless of the letter, they would try to put that behind them, all are in agreement that we would like to move the contract up. No one is in disagreement with that, but it still remains as Magistrate Conrad said, we only have a limited amount of money. We have approximately \$100,000.00. One of the Councilmen said they have a lot of demand on them also and spoke on their budget and said they have a considerable amount for fire and police. They contract their police out to save money, but the last approach to them was for \$300-350,000.00, so this is a substantial increase. Judge Link

agreed and said that was from the Sheriff's Department. The Councilman said he would just like to get it out there that they have demands on them too. Judge Link agreed and said the Court understands that. He gave them some numbers that they maybe would appreciate because just as they made a choice that they would provide for fire and law enforcement, the Court has some choices that they can not make and are pretty much mandated to the Court. He said they don't get any help from the City for any of these things. He said in the year 2005-06 they will provide almost four and one half million dollars in services and they don't get any assistance from any of the cities. The Jail Budget exceeds \$3,500,000.00. He also said he read in the paper last week that of the 17 incidents under the police bet 17 were for Dry Ridge and were for an arrest or traffic violation, so the decision that Dry Ridge makes down there had a financial impact to the Jail Budget. He said the Court also provides over \$150,000.00 in solid waste and there is no help from the cities. In this fiscal year alone we will exceed in over \$200,000.00 in payments just for elections, so we may have elections in the City of Dry Ridge and the City of Williamstown. We provide those services. He mentioned the Animal Shelter. Dry Ridge does not provide anything for this service and we have provided from \$60,000.00 per year to \$140,000.00 per year in service there. Mr. Hopperton said he appreciated this, but they are a city. The county is the dog and the city is the tail in situations like these. That is the way it is supposed to be, but you are trying to say now that the City is the dog and the county is the tail. The city is not supposed to do the wagging. We are to support the county. Judge Link said he is not asking them to. He is trying to justify to them where all the dollars go and most go back to the cities. Mr. Hooperton said their budget for fire protection is \$935,000.00 and the county is paying

\$100,000.00 countywide. That is a figure that jumps out at him that says the county is getting off cheap for fire protection. Judge Link asked them in the area of Greater Cincinnati can you tell me any county that has a fire department or is it all cities. For instance, does Cincinnati have one or is it Hamilton County? Does Florence or is it Boone County? Is it Fayette County or Lexington? They said it was based upon the region. Judge Link said he was not aware of any county that has a fire department. They said Scott County has one, Bourbon County does, Owen County does and so does Boone County. They said there are a lot of them that do. Mr. Wells again reiterated that they are looking for a mechanism to negotiate a contract before the services are rendered and the ability to discuss and interactively discuss the terms for the contract period. Judge Link asked who the City of Dry Ridge has designated to interact with the Fiscal Court for that contract. They officially have not designated a person. They just sent Mr. Wells as Pro Tem to work out details of this last contract. Judge Link asked what the pleasure was of the City Council of Dry Ridge as to what person they were designating to speak to the Court in regards to a contract and the language therein. Mayor Cull said they had talked about Jim Wells and Norris Stacey-Fire Chief, but no action has been taken yet. Judge Link asked them to send him a copy of the minutes that reflect where the Council voted to send Jimmy Wells and Norris Stacey to negotiate a contract and stated we can work from there.

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Judge Link reminded Fiscal Court that the next Caucus meeting will be on Monday, June 13, 2005, at 5:30 P.M., and that the next meeting of the Fiscal Court will be on Monday, June 20, 2005, at 7:00 P.M.

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Motion of Patricia Conrad and seconded by Richard Austin it is hereby ordered to

Adjourn until Monday, June 20, 2005, at 7:00 P.M.

The following votes were taken: Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, votes Yes; Patricia Conrad, Magistrate 2nd District, votes Yes; Kenny Messer, Magistrate 3rd District, votes Yes; and Hon. Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive, votes Yes.

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GRANT COUNTY JUDGE/EXECUTIVE